



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SAULO REYES SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON ON DRUG / BRIBERY CHARGE**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that in El Paso this morning, 37-year-old Saulo Reyes was sentenced to 97 months in federal prison on a drug/bribery conspiracy charge.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Philip R. Martinez ordered that Reyes pay a \$50,000 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of 20 years after completing his prison term.

Finally, Judge Martinez approved the forfeiture of proceeds derived from the defendant's criminal actions including \$19,250 in United States currency and a 2005 Volkswagen Tourareg.

On June 13, 2008, Reyes pleaded guilty to conspiracy to import 100 kilograms or more of marijuana. By pleading guilty, Reyes admitted that he paid \$4,250 on January 15, 2008, plus another \$15,000 on January 16, 2008, to an undercover Immigration and Customs Enforcement agent, who he believed was a port inspector, to allow a vehicle loaded with over 400 kilograms of marijuana through the Paso del Norte port of entry without inspection.

Reyes, co-defendant, Karina Tarango, age 27, of El Paso, is serving a 30-month prison sentence after pleading guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute 100 kilograms of more of marijuana. Authorities arrested Tarango at a stash house located at 12188 Sunbridge in Horizon City, Texas, used in the smuggling scheme.

This case was investigated by agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

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